GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:213
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016
Himalayan Tourist Circuit
Tamta Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to form a Himalayan Tourist circuit for development of tourism in Himalayan States in the country;
(b) if so, the locations proposed to be connected under this circuit, State-wise;
(c) whether the Jageshwar Dham situated at Almora and the Mahakali temple situated at Gangolihat in Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand are also proposed to be developed as world class tourist destinations;
(d) whether the Government proposes to give priority to connect the said religious places with the tourist circuits in India to bring them at world-level; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in 2014-15 with a vision to develop theme based tourist circuits in the country on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in an integrated manner by synergizing efforts to focus on needs and concerns of all stakeholders to enrich tourist experience and enhance employment opportunities.

Himalayan Circuit is one of the circuits identified for development under this scheme. Himalayan Circuit includes the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and North Eastern Regions.

Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for projects identified in consultation with the State Governments/UTs for development of tourist infrastructure under this scheme. The projects are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, liquidation of pending utilization certificates, submission of suitable Detailed Project Report (DPR) and adherence to the scheme guidelines.
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